

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 COME-00 DODE-00  
NSF-02 /041 R

DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB:MJB  
APPROVED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB  
ARA/CEN - MR. WELTER  
-----092434 112018Z /73

R 102109Z AUG 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMCONSUL BELIZE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TBIO

SUBJECT: R/V ALPHA HELIX CLEARANCE REQUEST, 14 OCT - 19  
NOV 1977

1. R/V ALPHA HELIX, A PRIVATE VESSEL OPERATED BY SCRIPPS  
INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY AND FUNDED BY NATIONAL SCIENCE  
FOUNDATION, IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OFF  
NICARAGUA. THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH IS TO STUDY THE  
GROWTH OF SEAGRASS IN MISKITO CAYS AND QUITA SUENO BANK,  
CORN ISLANDS AND PEARL, KING, AND TYRA CAYS.

2. THE MAJOR TYPES OF SEAGRASS ECOSYSTEMS UNDER STUDY  
IS COMPOSED OF THE TROPICAL - AMERICAN SEAGRASS SPECIES  
INCLUDING THALASSIA TESTUDINUM SYRINGODIUM FILIFORME,  
HALODULE WRIGHTII AND HALOPHILA SPP. ON LEG I OF THE  
CRUISE, STUDY AREAS OF INTEREST WILL BE LOCATED AND ON  
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THE RETURN LEG, LEG II, 3-4 DAYS WILL BE SPENT AT ABOUT  
THREE LOCATIONS WHERE INTENSIVE STUDIES WILL BE CONDUCTED.  
THE RESEARCH WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY BY SCUBA AND WILL  
INVOLVE COLLECTING OF SEAGRASS, SEDIMENTS AROUND THE  
PLANTS, AND HERBIVORES (GREEN TURTLES). THE PRODUCTIVITY,  
DISTRIBUTION, AND NUTRIENT CYCLING OF THE GRASSES WILL BE  
STUDIED.

3. THE CHIEF SCIENTIST IS DR. J. C. OGDEN OF FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY, WEST INDIES LABORATORY, WITH A SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 12. TWO BERTHS ARE AVAILABLE FOR NICARAGUAN PARTICIPANTS AND ALL DATA RESULTS WILL BE SHARED. PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BOARD AT BELIZE CITY OR CRISTOBAL. THE ITINERARY IS AS FOLLOWS:

DEPART BELIZE - 14 OCT.  
ARRIVE CRISTOBAL - 30 OCT.  
DEPART CRISTOBAL - 3 NOV.  
ARRIVE BELIZE - 19 NOV.

4. CAPTAIN OF ALPHA HELIX IS ROBERT C. NEWBEGIN WITH A CREW OF 12. SHIP IS 296 GROSS TONS, 133 FT. LONG WITH A DRAFT OF 13 FT. RADIO CALL SIGN IS KLFK AND SHIP MONITORS 2182 KHZ AND VHF CHANNEL 16.

5. A SHIP'S TRACK IS BEING PLOTTED WHICH DESCRIBES THE SURVEY AREA. ADDITIONALLY, A SCIENTIFIC PROSPECTUS IS BEING PROVIDED AND A LIST OF SCIENTIFIC PERSONNEL.

6. ACTION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK PERMISSION FOR R/V ALPHA HELIX TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN NICARAGUAN TERRITORIAL WATERS DURING 14 OCT - 19 NOV 1977. CHRISTOPHER  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ALPHA HELIX R/V, OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 10-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WERB:MJB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN OES  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1642322  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** R/V ALPHA HELIX CLEARANCE REQUEST, 14 OCT - 19 NOV 1977  
**TAGS:** OCLR, TGEN, TBIO, TOCY, NU  
**To:** MANAGUA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/e1af305d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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